

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

April 12, 2000

S. 1778

A bill to provide for equal exchanges of land around the Cascade Reservoir

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on April 5, 2000

CBO estimates that enacting S. 1778 would have no significant impact on the federal budget. The bill could affect direct spending; thus, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply, but we expect any such impact to be insignificant over the 2000-2005 period. S. 1778 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would have no significant effect on the budgets on state, local, or tribal governments.

S. 1778 would amend current law to allow the Secretary of the Interior to negotiate exchanges of land of approximately equal value around the Cascade Reservoir in Idaho. According to the Bureau of Reclamation, the lands that would be exchanged under the bill have already been identified to be in excess of the needs of the reservoir. Those lands do not currently generate any significant receipts, and the agency does not expect them to generate any significant receipts over the next 10 years. If lands exchanged under S. 1778 are not of equal value, the bill would require either the federal government or the grantor to make a cash payment equal to the difference. Based on information from the Bureau of Reclamation, CBO estimates that any such payments would be insignificant.

The CBO staff contact is Megan Carroll. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.